REMARKS

In response to the Official Action mailed January 27, 2005, Applicants have request favorable reconsideration. No claims are added or canceled in this Amendment so that claims 40-59 remain pending. No new matter has been added.

The Official Action rejects all of the claims 40-59 based on prior art of record. Specifically, independent claims 40 and 50 and dependent claims 45-48 and 55-58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,361,361 to Hickman et al. (hereinafter "Hickman"). Claims 44, 49, 54 and 59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hickman in view of U.S. Patent 6,236,989 to Mandyam et al. (hereinafter "Mandyam"), and claims 41-43 and 51-53 are rejected as being unpatentable over Hickman in view of U.S. Patent 5,825,356 to Habib et al. (hereinafter "Habib"). Those rejections are respectfully traversed.

The references or record do not teach or suggest providing mapping data for mapping help topics from different vendors into a unified taxonomy structure wherein the first level of categories is predefined. Applicants previously argued that, in contrast to the claims of the present invention, Hickman does not disclose that the various topics and subtopics are fit into a predefined taxonomy structure. *See* col. 7, lines 30-67; Fig. 5; and Fig. 6 of Hickman. For example, consider a computer where only application 1 and application 2 are installed. Under the help utility of Hickman, the only topics present in the taxonomy structure of help topics are those topics that are present in application 1 and application 2. If application 2 is uninstalled and replaced with application 3, the taxonomy structure at the first level also changes. Thus, Hickman does not teach that a first level of categories in the unified taxonomy structure being predefined as recited in amended claims 40 and 50.

The Official Action, in maintaining the rejection, responds with the contention that "the categories within the taxonomy structure of Hickman are defined by various help file directories, the contents of which are predefined, and therefore, the first level of categories within the taxonomy is considered to be predefined." However, this position is both illogical and untenable. Initially, Applicants note that simply because the contents of the help files of various applications are predefined, it does not follow that the unified taxonomy structure is predefined. Since the taxonomy of Hickman is determined by the various applications present, which is a dynamic characteristic, the taxonomy structure of Hickman could not possible be predefined. Furthermore, the description and figures of Hickman are exactly contrary to the Official Action's contention. Figure 5 shows an exemplary help file viewer of Hickman, with a first level help taxonomy of Topic A1, Topic B1,

Topic A2, Topic B2, and Topic C2. However, Topics A1 and B1 are associated with Application 1, and thusly, if Application 1 did not exist on the system, Topics A1 and B1 would be absent from Figure 5. It necessarily follows that the first level taxonomy of Hickman is not predefined. Accordingly, Hickman cannot anticipate independent claims 40 and 50 and dependent claims 45-48 and 55-58, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Regarding claims 42, 43, 52, and 53, the Official Action contends that Habib teaches that, because help content must know the name of a script to access a script, "the help content described by Hickman and Habib is considered to **necessarily** comprise storage for storing information, specifically the names of required scripts, which identifies that the help content is authorized to access such scripts" (emphasis added).

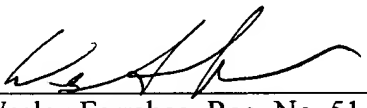
"To establish inherency, the extrinsic evidence 'must make clear that the missing descriptive matter is necessarily present in the thing described in the reference, and that it would be so recognized by persons of ordinary skill. Inherency, however, may not be established by probabilities or possibilities. The mere fact that a certain thing may result from a given set of circumstances is not sufficient.'" *In re Robertson*, 169 F.3d 743, 745, 49 USPQ2d 1949, 1950-51 (Fed. Cir. 1999) (citations omitted). "In relying upon the theory of inherency, the examiner must provide a basis in fact and/or technical reasoning to reasonably support the determination that the allegedly inherent characteristic necessarily flows from the teachings of the applied prior art." *Ex parte Levy,* 17 USPQ2d 1461, 1464 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1990) (emphasis in original). Applicants note that it is not necessary that the help content of Habib may only know the names of scripts that it is authorized to access. It is entirely possible, and indeed probable, that the help content of Habib could know the names of scripts that it was not supposed to access (e.g. by a simple file search). Habib teaches nothing that would limit the help content from knowing the names of files it is allowed to access, most likely because Habib does not discuss security or authorization at all. Thus, the Official Action's contention of inherency is erroneous.

Moreover, the Official Action further contends that the "help application check these script names to determine what scripts the help content is allowed to access." There is absolutely no support for that contention in Habib. Upon review of Habib, Applicants cannot find where that purported teaching exists. Clearly, the limitations of claims 42, 43, 52, and 53 are not taught or suggested by Hickman and Habib. Accordingly, *prima facie* obviousness has not been established, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Still further, the rejection of claims 41, 44, 49, 51, 54, and 59 rely on the principle that Hickman anticipates claims 40 and 50, which, as previously explained, it does not. Accordingly, *prima facie* obviousness has not been established, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections, as well as prompt allowance of the pending claims, are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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